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Commission for Social Development
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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Sudan:* draft resolution

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

"*The Economic and Social Council*,

"*Recalling* the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[1] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world', held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[2]

"*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[3] the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,[4] General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[5]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[4] See General Assembly resolution 57/2.

[5] A/57/304, annex.

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"*Noting* the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held in Ouagadougou on 8 and 9 September 2004,

"*Recognizing* the commitments made in meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[6]

"*Remaining concerned* that Africa is the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals set out in the Millennium Declaration by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

"*Expressing deep concern* that attainment of the social development objectives may be hindered by the financial crisis, and by the challenges arising from the ongoing food and energy crisis,

"*Recognizing* that capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and best practices are essential for the successful implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and recognizing also the need for continued support from the international community,

"*Bearing in mind* that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that their development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development[7] to the New Partnership,

"1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[5] to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

"2. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in some countries, the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews in some countries and the completion of the self-assessment process, the hosting of country support missions and the launching of the national preparatory process for the peer review in others, and urges African States that have not yet done so, to join the peer review, as a matter of priority, and to strengthen the peer review process so as to ensure its efficient performance;

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[6] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[7] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

"3. *Welcomes in particular* the organization of the first session of the African Union Conference of Ministers in charge of Social Development, held in Windhoek from 27 to 31 October 2008, and the adoption of both the African Common Position on Social Integration and the Social Policy Framework for Africa, which has been endorsed by Africa's Heads of State;

"4. *Welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership, including the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on the Rights of Women in Africa;

"5. *Emphasizes* that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase and coordinate effectively their support for enhancing the capacities of these institutions and to promote regional and continental integration;

"6. *Also emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship;

"7. *Further emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

"8. *Emphasizes* that the rising poverty levels and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, to promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development to ensure employment creation and decent work for all, and to enhance social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, so as to ensure the achievement of Africa's social and economic objectives;

"9. *Recognizes* that while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

"10. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, welcomes, in that regard, the convening of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation on 4 and 5 November 2006 and the Africa-South America Summit, held in Abuja on 30 November and 1 December 2006, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through trilateral cooperation;

"11. *Welcomes* the various important initiatives of Africa's development partners in recent years, including those of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Africa Action Plan of the Group of Eight, the 2007 European Union-Africa Summit, the Africa-Asia Business Forum, the report of the Commission for Africa entitled 'Our common interest', the Africa Partnership Forum, the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development, held in Yokohama, Japan, from 28 to 30 May 2008, on the theme 'Towards a vibrant Africa: continent of hope and opportunity',[8] the India-Africa Summit and the Turkey-Africa Summit, and in this regard, emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa by means of consolidated plans of action ensuring effective implementation through the translation of financial commitments and monitoring mechanisms;

"12. *Urges* continuous support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance, increased foreign direct investment and the transfer of technology, the conclusion of the Doha round of negotiations of the World Trade Organization, enhanced economic empowerment of women, and achieving the health-, education- and food security-related Millennium Development Goals;

"13. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty has fallen short of expectations and welcomes the proclamation of the Second Decade (2008-2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"14. *Encourages* all development partners to ensure aid effectiveness through the implementation of the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Renew the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, which was adopted by the Conference on 2 December 2008 and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/239 of 24 December 2008, as contained in the annex thereto;

"15. *Recognizes* the need for national Governments and the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries;

"16. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to align their financial and technical support to Africa more closely with the priorities of the New Partnership, as reflected in national poverty reduction strategies or in similar strategies, and encourages development partners to increase their efforts in this regard;

"17. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those

[8] See A/62/859.

institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

"18. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

"19. *Emphasizes* that it is important for the cluster working on communication, advocacy and outreach to continue to muster international support for the New Partnership and to urge the United Nations system to demonstrate more evidence of cross-sectoral synergies to promote a comprehensive approach regarding successive phases of planning and implementation of social development programmes in Africa;

"20. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the African Union and the secretariat of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership;

"21. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives, based on their national development priorities and strategies, to enable them to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this respect, acknowledges recent commitments by some donor countries;

"22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and requests the Office to collaborate with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and to include the social dimensions of the New Partnership in its comprehensive reports to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

"23. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to discuss in its annual programme of work, regional programmes to promote social development so as to enable all regions of the United Nations system to share experiences and best practices, with the concurrence of concerned countries, and in this regard, the programmes of work of the Commission should be aligned to identified priority areas of the New Partnership;

"24. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership during its forty-eighth session;

"25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to be tabled during the forty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, while also taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 62/179 of 19 December 2007, entitled 'New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support'."